

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus configured for:

~~transmitting encoded information by using a priority added to the encoded information to thin the encoded information determining a priority threshold to achieve a desired transmission rate of encoded information for video or audio data, the encoded information including priority information added to the encoded information;~~

~~transmitting portions of the encoded information when the priority of the portions of the encoded information satisfies the priority threshold and not transmitting other portions of the encoded information when the priority of the other portions of the encoded information does not satisfy the priority threshold to thin the transmitted encoded information;~~

when (1) an actual transfer rate of the transmitted portions of the encoded information exceeds a target transfer rate ~~of the encoded information for a video or audio or~~ (2) a decision is made that a writing of said the portions of the encoded information into a transmitting buffer is delayed, the decision being based on a result of comparing an elapsed time after start of transmission with a time added to the encoded information, the added time indicating when the portions of the encoded information ~~is are~~ to be decoded or output, ~~the apparatus further configured to thin the encoded information by:~~

~~determining a priority threshold to achieve a desired transmission rate of the encoded information;~~

~~transmitting the encoded information when the priority of the encoded information satisfies the priority threshold; and~~

~~when the encoded information is lost at a frequency exceeding a threshold value, adjusting the priority threshold~~adjusting the priority threshold to reduce a size of a further portion of the encoded information to be transmitted, thereby further thinning the encoded information that is transmitted.

24-58. (Cancelled)

59. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising the steps of:

successively inputting classified time-series data and priority information comprising a priority for each inputted time-series data;

determining a threshold priority for retransmitting a requested portion of the time-series data;

transmitting the time-series data and the priority information;

receiving the time-series data and the priority information;

when information in the received time-series data is damaged or lost, requesting retransmission of time-series data corresponding to the damaged or lost information;

~~when said transmitted time-series data is damaged or lost at a frequency exceeding a threshold value, adjusting the threshold priority; and~~

retransmitting the requested time-series data when the priority of the requested time-series data corresponding to the damaged or lost information satisfies the threshold priority and not retransmitting the requested time-series data when the priority of the requested time-series data corresponding to the damaged or lost information does not satisfy the threshold priority; and

when the transmitted time-series data is damaged or lost at a frequency exceeding a threshold value, adjusting the threshold priority to reduce an amount of the requested time-series data retransmitted.

60. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus configured for:

successively receiving classified time-series data and priority information comprising a priority for each received time-series data;

determining a threshold priority for requesting retransmission of a portion of the received time-series data;

when information in the received time-series data is damaged or lost, requesting retransmission of time-series data corresponding to the damaged or lost information if the priority of the requested time-series data corresponding to the damaged or lost information satisfies the threshold priority but not if the priority of the requested time-series data corresponding to the damaged or lost information does not satisfy the threshold priority; and

when information in the classified time-series data is damaged or lost at a frequency exceeding a threshold value, adjusting the threshold priority to reduce a frequency of retransmission requests issued.

61. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising the steps of:

successively inputting classified time-series data and priority information comprising a priority for each inputted time-series data;

determining a threshold priority for transmitting the time-series data to achieve a desired transmission rate;

transmitting each of the classified time-series data comprising a priority that satisfies the threshold priority and not transmitting classified time-series data comprising a priority that does not satisfy the threshold priority; and

~~when the transmitted time-series data is lost at a frequency exceeding a threshold value~~ an actual transmission rate exceeds the desired transmission rate, adjusting the threshold priority to thin out the transmitted time-series data.

62. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus configured for:

successively receiving classified time-series data and priority information comprising a priority for each received time series data;

determining a priority threshold to achieve a desired transmission rate;

transmitting each of the classified time-series data comprising a priority that satisfies the priority threshold and not transmitting classified time-series data comprising a priority that does not satisfy the priority threshold; and

adjusting the priority threshold to thin out the transmitted time-series data to achieve the desired transmission rate when the desired transmission rate has not been achieved.

63-94. (Cancelled)

95. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising:

determining a priority threshold to achieve a desired transmission rate of encoded information for video or audio data, the encoded information including priority information added to the encoded information;

transmitting portions of the encoded information by using a priority added to the encoded information to thin the encoded information when the priority of the portions of the encoded information satisfies the priority threshold and not transmitting other portions of the encoded information when the priority of the other portions of the encoded information does not satisfy the priority threshold;

when (1) an actual transfer rate of the transmitted portions of the encoded information exceeds a target transfer rate of the encoded information for a video or audio or (2) a decision is made that a writing of said the portions of encoded information into a transmitting buffer is delayed, the decision being based on a result of comparing an elapsed time after start of transmission with a time added to the encoded information, the added time indicating when the portions of the encoded information is to be decoded or output, adjusting the priority threshold to reduce a size of a further portion of the encoded information to be transmitted, thereby further thinning the encoded information that is transmitted;

~~determining a priority threshold to achieve a desired transmission rate of the encoded information; and~~

~~adjusting the priority threshold to achieve the desired transmission rate when the desired transmission rate has not been achieved;~~

~~wherein encoded information comprising a priority that does not satisfy the priority threshold is not transmitted and encoded information comprising a priority that does satisfy the priority threshold is transmitted, thereby effecting thinning of the transmitted encoded information.~~

96. (Currently Amended) The data processing apparatus of claim 23, wherein when a ~~loss rate of encoded information or a retransmission frequency is great~~transmission rate exceeds a threshold value, an increased priority is given to the encoded information that should be retransmitted~~transmitted~~ in order to decrease the ~~loss rate or the retransmission frequency~~transmission rate.

97. (Currently Amended) The data processing method of claim 59, wherein when a loss rate of encoded information or a retransmission frequency is ~~great~~exceeds a threshold value, an increased priority is given to the encoded information that should be retransmitted in order to decrease the loss rate or the retransmission frequency.

98. (Currently Amended) The data processing method of claim 61, wherein when a ~~loss rate of encoded information or a retransmission frequency is great~~transmission rate exceeds a threshold value, an increased priority is given to the encoded information that should be retransmitted~~transmitted~~ in order to decrease the ~~loss rate or the retransmission frequency~~transmission rate.

99. (New) The data processing apparatus of claim 23, wherein the encoded information is for I frame, P frame or B frame video data, and

the priority threshold is raised or lowered according to the priority information added to the encoded information.